

DX LISTENING DIGEST 00-69, May 23, 2000  
edited by Glenn Hauser

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\*\* BRAZIL. R. Anhanguera, 4915, May 13 0140-0255\* irregular, Portuguese talk, announcements by man and woman, echo announcements, IDs, ads, jingles. Good-strong despite usual summertime static; also May 20 (Brian Alexander, PA, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

\*\* COSTA RICA. RFPI's transmitter situation:

15049: Despite all the fuse protection James had in the exciter module of the transmitter, something (we expect a power surge) burnt up a couple of transformers which will now have to be rewound. Our back-up exciter is also down so we expect to be off a week at the minimum. Frustrating.

25930: When the gardeners cut the feeder line, it damaged the tuner mechanism which will have to be rebuilt. No word from James how long this will take.

Until these frequencies are up and running again, 6970 will be activated two hours earlier (2200), tho sounds like reception, at least where you are, is not very usable. (Joe Bernard, RFPI, May 23, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

\*\* CROATIA [non]. Have noticed extended English broadcast lasting about 25 minutes irregularly since Feb 19. May 20 on 9925: 0102-0125 ``Radio Croatia`` ID, English news, 0118-0125 ``Topic of the Day`` editorial program, 0125 back into Croatian. No English heard in the 0200-0230 time frame. This same English program was repeated at 0302-0325; very good (Brian Alexander, PA, DX LISTENING DIGEST) via DTK, Germany

\*\* GUATEMALA. R. Verdad, 4052.5, Chiquimula, is indeed signing on earlier now; Tue May 23 tune in at 1107 already in progress with ``Volviendo [a?] Jes's`` show with hymns, vibes, preaching, wrapping up at 1121 with program address, fading, 1122 R. Verdad ID. Half an hour makes a lot of difference in improved propagation for only 800 watts. Local sunrise here in Enid is 1119 UT, which in Local Mean Time is actually 0447, the figure that really matters in terms of sunrise. We are almost to our earliest sunrise of 1111 UT or 0439 LMT during the middle of June. We are 92 minutes slow of Central Daylight

Time, which is ridiculous, pretending that the sunrises are 6:19 to 6:11 am (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

\*\* NETHERLANDS ANTILLES [non]. We have posted the following message on the Radio Netherlands Web site today: Due to essential maintenance to one of the temporary generators at Bonaire, only one transmitter is in operation. Most transmissions have been transferred to Flevo or other sites (Antigua, Ascension Island, Cypress Creek and Jlich).

However, the following transmissions are OFF THE AIR:

2330-0025 UTC Spanish on 11715 kHz

0330-0425 UTC Dutch on 6165 kHz

0430-0530 UTC English on 6165 kHz

(Andy Sennitt, Radio Netherlands, swprograms May 23 via DXLD)

\*\* PERU. HCJB DX Partyline May 20, pre-recorded to cover Allen Graham's fund-raising trip to the US, included some more ``Quito Logbook`` items from Bj^rn somebody which he hand-delivers to HCJB. Once again some are questionable and need confirmation from experts on this region; no one followed up the previous QLB I forwarded. I quote as accurately as I could copy:

On 4577.32, Radio Uno, Chiclayo, at 0310 announcing ``4570``. In repeating the frequency at the end of the item, AG gave this one as if it were actual rather than nominal...

On 6520.44, Radio Paucartambo at 0030 in Quechua and Spanish, also IDs as R. Universal, Cusco [??]

On 3172.69, R. Municipal, Panal[? -- reported elsewhere as Cangallo] at 0230, nonstop music with IDs as R. Panamericana [are all these double-IDs the result of carrying network programming?]

On 5323.65, La Voz de Anta, in Anta, weak at 0400

On 5580 and 5620, R. Tigre, Peruvian location unknown, or R. 2000, La Voz del Nuevo Milenio, or La Voz del Campesino, at 0000 announcing ``5250`` [again repeated as if it were actual, not nominal. Were two or three separate items merged together here??]

Next week's DXPL: some harmonic items from same reporter (via Glenn Hauser, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

\*\* PORTUGAL (?). From 0935 until about 1000 UT May 21 I heard on 17810 an experimental digital broadcast, according to DRM standards, mixed with rather long periods of analog AM emission. IDs were in Portuguese, English, Spanish and Dutch, each with a musical interval: ``Benvindo ao programa de testes DRM``, they said, adding that comparisons were being made between analog AM and the sound of DRM.

They said DRM is destined to replace analog in the future on frequencies below 30 MHz. The musical intervals were filled with music from different parts of the world: Arab, Hispanic-American, and a song by a Cape Verde musician in Portugal called Dani Silva.

At that moment they said the broadcast originates in Sines, Portugal, and immediately afterwards that it comes from Rampisham, UK! The analog sound was very frequently interrupted by very brief repetitions, such as ``Com-com-pa-pa-raÁies-Áies es-es-t,,o sendo feitas-tas...`` Would these transmissions be alternating between Sines and Rampisham, a few tenths of a second from each one? If so, one would note variations in signal strength, which was not the case. The signal was excellent throughout. Was the program broadcast simultaneously from both and the echo due to some deficiency in the system reading the messages recorded in the memory? The analog signal was excellent, SINPO 55555. Sines is about 400 km from here in Porto. [That would put you in the skip zone at 17 MHz; more likely the big signal you got was from Rampisham -gh]

The worst was when the signal switched to digital. It was as if suddenly we turned on a computer next to the receiver. The noise was very much like that produced by a computer, and spread out some tens of kHz, making reception of stations on neighboring channels useless! The greater bandwidth of the digital signal is no surprise. It would be difficult for a digital signal to occupy no more spectrum than analog. The frequency of a digitalized signal has to be, according to Nyquist's law, equal or greater than double the highest [audio] signal of the original analog signal.

Interference may be avoidable by various processes, permitting a greater number of digital than analog signals to share the same spectrum without interfering with each other. But in order to co-exist peacefully, they must all use the same type of modulation. Is this the case with DRM? It will not be possible for the two different types of modulation to live together peacefully. If DRM signals occupy as much bandwidth as I observed, it would take only half a dozen of them to completely ruin reception of tens and tens of analog stations! In this confrontation, the analog signals will be at a disadvantage, because analog signals will be drowned out by the digital noise.

If the DRM project proceeds, definitely replacing analog broadcasts, the time will come when the analog receivers we use today, value so highly, and have served us so well, will be useless. It may be that future digital receivers will serve us even better, and we will wind up taking a fancy to them, but the romanticism of managing to pull out of the depths that faraway station in a poor country, doing great service to the people there, will be lost. And thus arises another

problem: what will radio be like in the poorer countries? Will they be obliged to turn off the analog broadcasters they have in order to buy digital equipment? And the receivers, at what price? Will it be legitimate to require populations living on the threshold of subsistence to buy new receivers? However subsidized the prices of these may be, it will be very difficult for them to be as low as the simplest and cheapest ``chiricos`` made for example in Mozambique.

So all this calls for lengthy and delayed reflection. Personally, I believe that rather than serving the needs of everyone, DRM is nothing more than a big business deal the manufacturers are about to undertake. Imagine the millions of digital radios which they surely hope to sell! But it could be that ``radio`` via internet will frustrate their plans. The broadcast I heard last Sunday referred to the official website of the broadcasters, manufacturers, and other organizations promoting digital radio below 30 MHz, ``Digital Radio Mondiale`` (DRM), <http://www.drm.org> What kind of mixture of French and English is this?! (Fernando de Sousa Ribeiro, Porto, Portugal - Receptor Sony ICF-2001D, com antena telescopica e pre'-amplificador de antena Sony AN-1, radioescutas, translated by gh with a little help from Langenscheidt for DX LISTENING DIGEST)

\*\* ROMANIA. RRI, 15180, May 13 2100 English news, commentary, ID, light instrumental music, very strong; much weaker on //15105, 11940, 11740 (Brian Alexander, PA, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

\*\* RUSSIA. RADIO MAYAK IS BACK ON SW OUT OF RUSSIA...BUT FOR THREE DAYS ONLY!

In just a few days Russia's renowned Radio MAYAK will be conducting a special short-wave test. Please note that the station does not plan to resume its regular SW service. This test will be a one-time event only!

Test dates: May 26, 27 and 28  
Time: 15:00-16:00 UTC  
Frequency: 15.410 kHz  
Transmitter: 200 kW, Novosibirsk  
Azimuth: 291 degrees  
Angle of antenna emission: 8 degrees

The sponsors of the test promise to confirm all correct reception reports with a full-data QSL. So this might well be the DXers' last chance to hear and to confirm this station broadcasting on SW out of Russia!

The reception reports are ACTIVELY solicited at [radiotest@mail.ru](mailto:radiotest@mail.ru)

Please provide date, time, SINPO, location, and a brief description of your receiver and antenna. If you want a free full-data QSL by e-mail, add a few program details. A brief sound file enclosed to your report will be highly appreciated. If you prefer a QSL-letter by regular mail, make sure you state this clearly in your report.  
(Sergei Sosedkin, May 23, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

\*\* UKRAINE. I \*did\* hear RUI UT May 16 at 0300 on 13590, English to NAM. UT May 17 at 0300 I checked again, and NO SHOW! Now it could have been poor propagation (I usually get Turkey English at 0300 very well on 11655; it was poor this date.) We'll all just have to keep checking at 0300 on 13590. It was back UT May 18. Announced this English schedule effective March 26:

Eu 2100 5905, 6020, 11950; 0000 5905, 6020; 0300 6020. Russia and Central Asia 2100 and 0000 on 6020, 9640; 0300 on same plus 12045; NAM 0300 13590; Australia (upcut on tape) on 21510 (Bob Thomas, CT, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

\*\* U K. Almost TWO MONTHS after the new BBC WS multi-streaming started, the feeds are still all mixed up. On the main webpage <http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice> I frequently find the program supposedly ON NOW is not the one you get when clicking for the stream! Trying the alternate yahoo/broadcast.com stream may or may not get what is supposed to be there, or on the American stream(?)  
(Glenn Hauser, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

\*\* ZAMBIA. Christian Voice, 4965, May 20 0150-0230+, contemporary Christian music, English religious talk, 0200 ID; nothing heard on 3330. Surprised to find CV here at this time; poor to fair with usual summertime static (Brian Alexander, PA, DX LISTENING DIGEST) ###